23rd February 1955]

Medical aid under N.E.S. Scheme

* 861 *Q.*—Sri K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount allotted for medical aid in Malabar under National Extension Service Scheme in 1954; and

(*b*) the amount actually spent under this head so far?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) A sum of Rs. 3,570 under ' Public Health ' has been provided in the Budget for 1954–55 for each of the two blocks, Tellicherry and Payyanur. This provision is intended to meet all expenditure coming under ' Public Health ' and not ' Medical aid ' alone.

" (*b*) No amount has been spent so far."

Sri K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" As medical aid is the most acute need of the people, will the Government give top priority to medical aid under the National Extension Service Scheme? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That will be done subject to availability of funds."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" In the Payyanur and Madayi blocks under the National Extension Service Scheme, there is only one hospital. It gets only three thousand rupees per annum and there is no medicine at all there. Will the Government see that that hospital is supplied with adequate medicines and equipment and also open a mobile hospital for the area? Only if this is done, the people will feel that they get some benefit from the National Extension Service Scheme."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have already stated that the Government will consider this suggestion subject to availability of funds."

Sri M. P. SUBRAMANYAM :—" As the medical facilities now available in rural areas are very meagre and as the Government want to concentrate on development on all sides including medical and public health, will the Government be pleased to provide one mobile medical unit in every National Extension Service Block? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Taking up an area under the National Extension Service Scheme does not mean that it should be deprived of the normal allotment of funds under Medical, Public Health and other items."

Personal clerks to Secretaries to Government

* 862 *Q.*—Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Secretaries to Government have ladies as personal clerks; and